GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1299
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2016
Air India Offices Abroad
Patil Shri Chandrakant Raghunath

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the places where Air India runs offices abroad, country-wise;

(b) the details of the places abroad where there are offices but Air India does not operate/book any flight from there, country-wise;

(c) the details of expenditure incurred in running those offices, during each of the last three years, year and office-wise;

(d) whether Air India proposes to close down all such offices or adopt any other strategy to cut avoidable cost; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) : The list of places where Air India runs offices abroad, country-wise is attached as Annexure 1.

(b) : Details of places abroad where Air India has offices but does not operate flights are as tabulated below:

Countries Station
America Washington
America Los Angeles
Canada Toronto

Netherlands Amsterdam
Egypt Cairo
Iran Tehran

These offices work as booking offices to generate revenue from ticketing, for servicing passengers and to cater to code share arrangements and tie ups with other airlines.

(c) : Details of expenditure incurred in the last 3 years on these offices is
attached as Annexure-2

(d) & (e) : In order to cut down costs, Air India has already undertaken closing and downsizing of its booking offices at the following stations in the past five years :

i. Nairobi office closed in March, 2011.
ii. Beirut office closed in September, 2011.
iii. Chittagong office closed in November, 2014.
iv. Zurich office closed in September 2014 and now functioning from a counter at airport.
v. Toronto office has been downsized to minimum staff.